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THE  
HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE  
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BY  
S. G. AYRES, B.D.  
LIBRARIAN IN DREW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
AND  
CHARLES F. SITTERLY, PH. D.  
PROFESSOR IN DREW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY  
HENRY M. MACCRACKEN, LL.D.  
CHANCELLOR OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY.

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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The Library method of study is becoming so general that no explanation is needed of the plan of this work.

The book is not designed as a complete bibliography of the subjects treated. The only attempts at completeness are in the general list of books on the subject, and the collection of references relating to the Revision of 1881. The book is designed as a guide to material for the Theological Seminary class and the private student and the investigator.



## INTRODUCTION.

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THE present volume tells in clear outline how men of thought, learning and devotion to God, through a thousand and two hundred years, made the English Bible as we have it to-day. It is an illustrious roll of writers from Caedmon, living before the year 700, down to the eminent men who edited the new revision of a few years ago. Indeed, the list includes contemporary authors who to-day are engaged upon a new translation of the Old Testament books. The volume presents a great company who aided these men in preparing the way for the triumph of the English Bible. More than a third of the book is thus an outline of the history of the English-speaking race, and especially of the history of the progress of the church in all of the British Isles. This long procession of names brings before the mind a nobler array than does any ancient sculpture of subject-princes bringing tribute to their kings, for the gifts which these men have brought to the English-speaking race are free-will offerings and precious beyond all reckoning.

1200

Ninety years ago only twenty millions of mankind spoke the English language; to-day English is the mother tongue of more than a hundred and twenty

## *INTRODUCTION.*

millions of our race. An entire third of the earth's population are ruled by English-speaking men. Among these no youth can be considered educated who cannot use the English tongue. English is to be, beyond any other speech, the language of culture and scholarship throughout the civilized world. Of this language our English Bible will ever be the foremost book.

This little volume should stimulate educated minds everywhere to study the making of the Book which has so largely created the British Empire and the American Republic. The writers of this outline of history very modestly offer their book to private investigators and students of theology. It may be safely recommended to a much larger circle. It will fill a most useful place in every library, public or private, as a book of reference and an encyclopedia for all who would search out the origin and history of the Holy Scriptures in the English tongue.

HENRY MITCHELL MACCRACKEN.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY.





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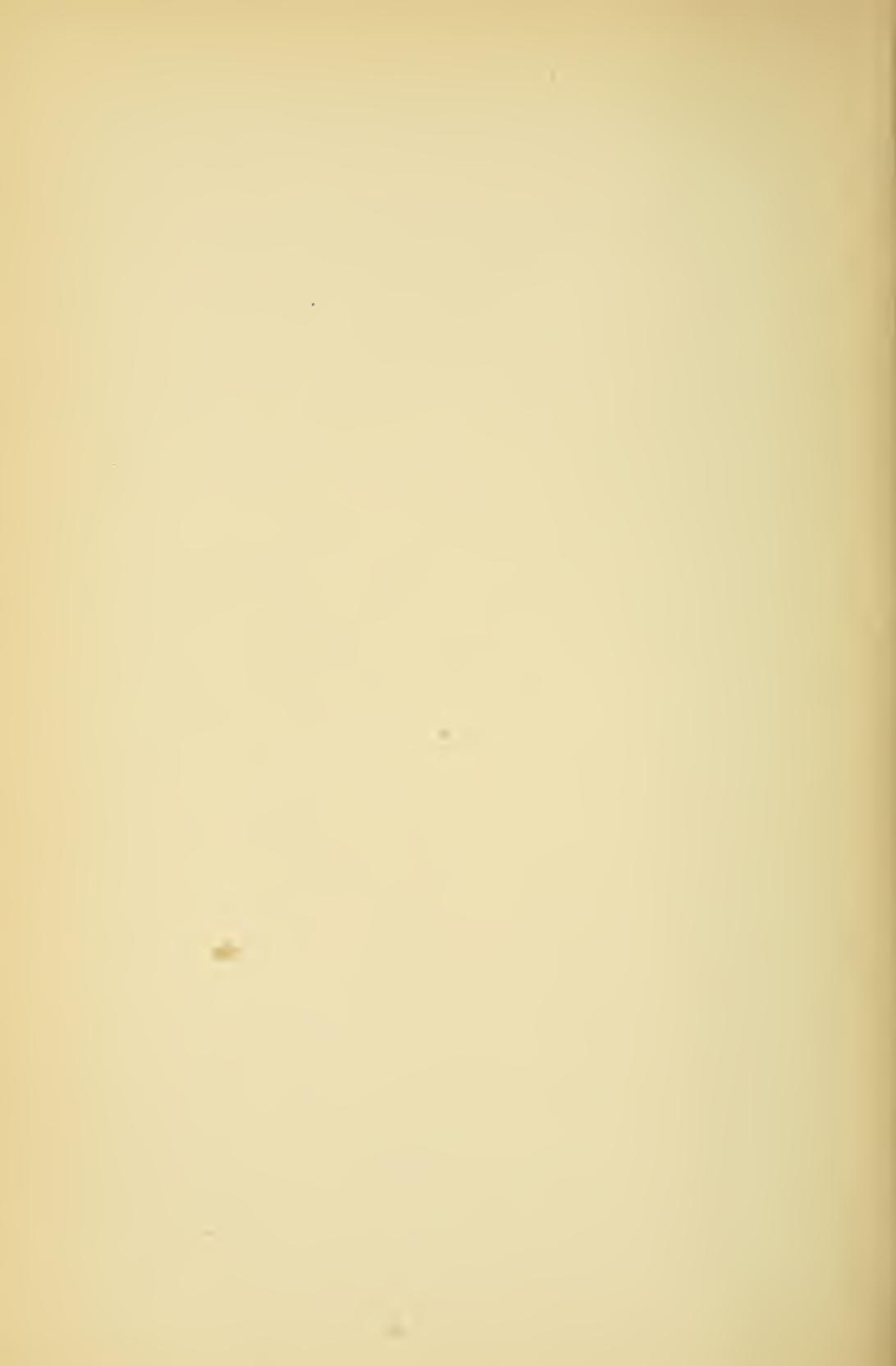


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## PART II.







## PART II.

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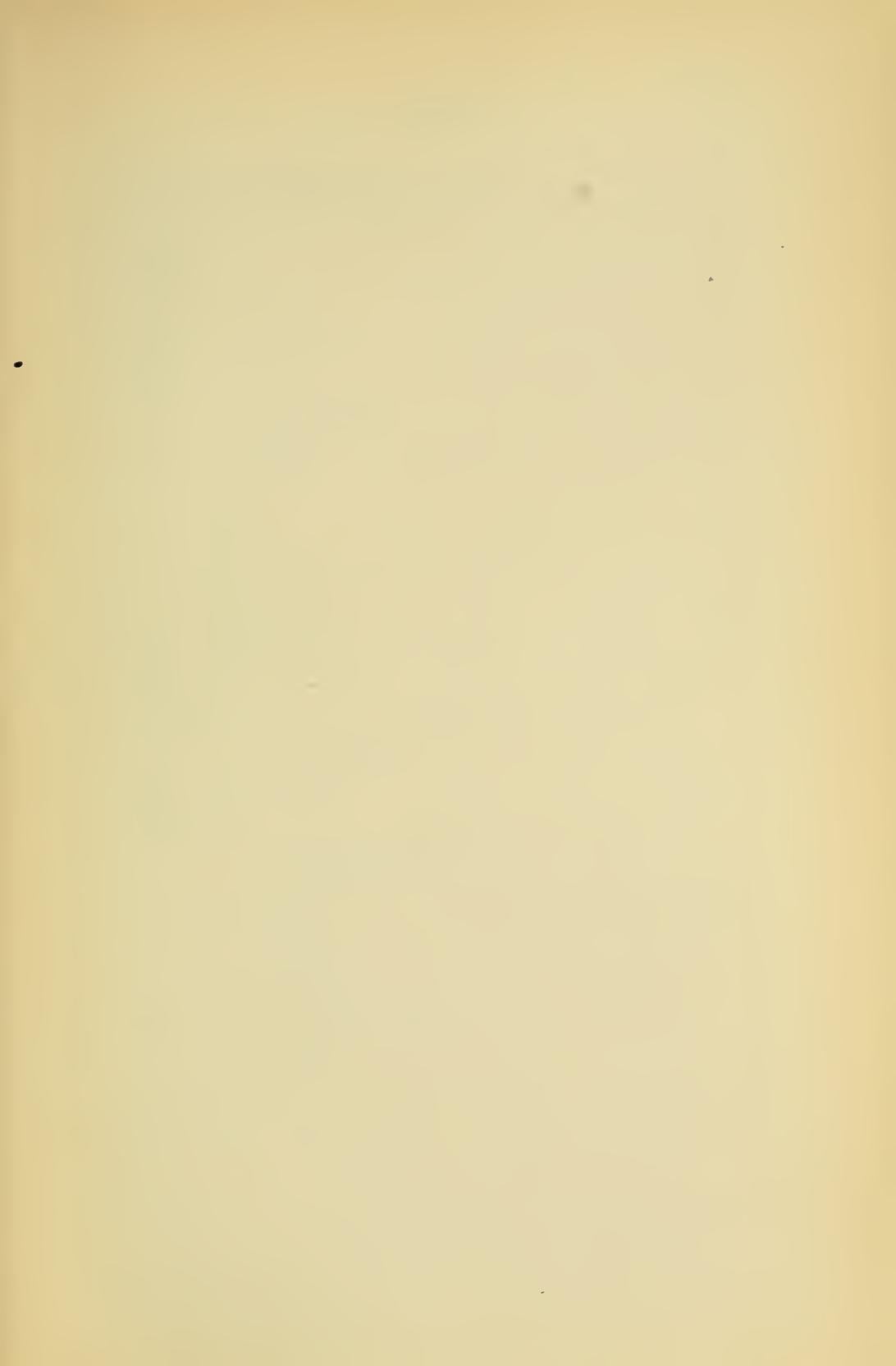
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